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Swimming Pool Safety

Keeping your home hazard-free

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Swimming Pool Safety

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, each year, about 260 children under age 5 drown in swimming pools. In addition, the suction from drains in swimming pools and spas, under certain conditions, can entrap swimmers underwater.

✓ The three main aspects of pool safety are barriers around the pool, close supervision of young children, and preparation for emergencies.

✓ If you're at a pool with children who are either very young or who can't swim, don't leave them alone, even if they aren't in the water.

✓ If you are taking care of an infant or toddler, don't let them out of arm's reach.

For more safety resources, visit safetycenter.navy.mil



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- ✓ If a child is missing and you have a pool, always look there first.
- ✓ Learning to swim—for both adults and children—is the best thing anyone can do to stay safe in and around the water. The American Red Cross offers swimming courses for people of any age and swimming ability.
- ✓ Most kids aren't physically and mentally prepared to learn to swim until they are at least four years old.



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- ✓ Fence the pool. Most localities have detailed rules about fences and gates. Often, gates must automatically close and latch, and the latch must be too high for small children to reach.
- ✓ Make sure you have life preservers handy. Keep rescue equipment and a phone next to the pool.
- ✓ Inflatable "swimming aids" toys and are no substitute for supervision. Non-swimmers who use them may literally get in over their heads.
- ✓ Keep toys away from the pool when it is not in use. Toys can attract young children into the

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